

Development

(195 48) Department.

No

SERIES.

G.O. No. 4649

Dated 11- 9- 1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

Animal husbandry- Sheep and goats- Marketing Survey- Report
-recommendations- Action taken.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

No.F. 12(21)/46-A.H. Keeling Road, New Delhi, the 20 April 1948.

From:

H.C. Thapar, Esq., B.A. (Hons),
Assistant Secretary.

To:

All Provincial Governments and Constituent
States of the Indian Council of Agricultural
Research.

Subject:- Report on the Marketing of Sheep and Goats in India.

Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to the report mentioned above, which was circulated with this office letter No.F.90(7)/46 Administration., dated the 22nd September 1946, and to forward herewith a copy of the recommendations contained therein. The Advisory Board of the India Council of Agricultural Research at its meeting held in January 1948, adopted this report with the remark that recommendations Nos. 1 to 3 should be brought to the notice of Provinces and States and nos. 6 to 8 to the notice of the Railway Board. The Board also recommended that the Council should take action on recommendation Nos. 4 & 5.

2. As regards recommendation 1, relating to the description of the breeds of sheep and goats, I am to state that the Council has already published in its popular Journal, Indian Farming, two articles each on breeds of Sheep and Goats and a third article on each of the two species of animals is in press. The Council is also collating all the available information on sheep and goats with the objects of publishing them in the form of Miscellaneous bulletins. I am accordingly to request that Provinces and States may kindly instruct their officers to send to the Council such information as may be available with them on the breeds of sheep and goats in their localities and which have not so far been published, so as to facilitate their publication.

3. In regard to recommendations 4 and 5, I may add that the Council is already collecting information as regards the best age to castrate sheep and goats under its sheep and goat breeding schemes, and an endeavour will be made to publish the information as early as possible.

4. I am to commend recommendations Nos. 1 to 3 for favour of such action as the Government of Madras etc may deem fit to take in so far as they are concerned and to request that if there is no objection a report on the action taken may kindly be sent to this office in due course for the information of the Advisory Board.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Sd. H.C. Thapar,
Assistant Secretary.

/True copy/

SD/ 31- 7- 1953

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

Summary of recommendations in the Marketing Report
on Sheep and Goats in India.

1. Work should be undertaken to describe uniformly and in detail the various breeds of sheep and goats available in both the British Provinces and Indian States.
2. Municipalities should take steps to improve the present markets which should be enclosed by pucca- walls, have sheds for shelter against the sun and drain and provide adequate arrangements for feeding and watering animals.
3. To establish a healthier trade, brokers in all important markets should be licensed and their number and rate of remuneration fixed according to local conditions.
4. Steps should be taken to find out the most suitable age at which males (sheep and goats) found in different parts of the country should be castrated.
5. The stage of life when they attain the maximum body development.
6. Concessional freight rates should be allowed between all railway stations commanding heavy traffic.
7. Possibilities of attaching animal wagons to passenger trains or parcel expresses should be looked into.
8. All animal wagons should provide drinking water for animals and have light points and feeding troughs.

/True copy/

SD/ 31- 7- 1953

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

Markets- Municipal Councils- Improvements to markets and licensing of brokers- Recommendations of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research- Commended to municipal councils for adoption.

From the Asst. Secretary, Indian Council of Agricultural Research New Delhi, No. F.12(21)/46-A(H) dated 20-4-48.

Memo . 18971 E/48-1 dated 31-5-1948.

The Advisory Board of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has adopted the following recommendations in the Report on the Marketing of Sheep and Goats in India.

1. " Municipalities should take steps to improve the present markets which should be enclosed by pucca walls, have sheds for shelter against the sun and rain and provide adequate arrangements for feeding and watering animals.
2. To establish a ~~healthier~~ healthier trade, brokers in all important markets should be licensed and their number and rate of remuneration fixed according to local conditions.

The recommendations are commended to all municipal councils for adoption as far as practicable.

Sd. xxxxxx

To

The Executive Authorities of Municipalities
thru' the Chairman, Municipal Councils.
The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
The Director of Veterinary Services.
The Development Department.

~~Secretary~~

/True copy/

SD/- 31- 7-1953

Superintendent,
Madras Recrd Office.

The various breeds of Sheep and Goats available.
in the Madras Province.

The sheep in the Madras Presidency have been classed under two types namely:-

(a) Woolly type and (b) Hairy type.

Both the types are thin tailed and horned. These two types are again subdivided according to the localities where they are generally found and according to their description.

(a) Woolly Sheep.

- 1- Nilgiris.
2. Coimbatore.
- 3- Bellary.

(b) Hairy Sheep

1. Nellore
2. Mylambadi and Modheri
3. Madras.

Of the above the details of Bellary and Nelloresheep have been published already in the Journal of India Farming Vol. II No DV April 1941. The description of the remaining are mentioned below.

(a) Woollyssheep- Nilgiris type:- These are mostly found in and round ooty taluk of the Nilgiris district. They are owned by the ryots of the locality. Each owner possesses 10 to 50 sheep. These are maintained purely for mutton purposes and for manurial purposes. They are housed in small sheds throughout the year. The sheep graze and live on mere grazing available in the surrounding hills and valleys.

Description:- This is a mixed breed of foreign fine wool bearing sheep with the locals. The males are horned and the females are hornless. The prevailing colour is white with brown or black spots and patches on the head, with long tail, medium ears and are slightly roman nosed.

Wool:- Most of these bear fine wool and are capable of yielding about 2 to 2½ pounds of wool per clip. Clipping is not so far practised in this locality. The shepherds are being persuaded to clip regularly and to make the best use of this fine wool, some of which is even suitable for making fine clothes.

2. COIMBATORE SHEEP:- Large numbers of these are found in the north and west of Coimbatore in Coimbatore district. They are kept in the open throughout the year. These are owned by Kurubas. Each kuruba will have at least 50 to 100 sheep. They are penned in the open fields during nights in fields for manuring purposes. They graze on bunds hill slopes, and road sides. In summer they migrate to palghat side, due to insufficient grazing facilities and return after the onset of monsoon in that area.

Description:- This is a woolly breed, short in stature, white in colour with black face. The males are horned and the females mostly hornless, with a small head and medium ears. They are almost square type and the ribs are well sprung up. The tail is short and thin.

Wool:- The wool is short, coarse and partially dry. They yield about 1 to 1½ pounds wool per head per year. This

wool can be easily worked by country made hand spinning wheel, or even spun by crude Thakli by females at home and can be made into rugs or cumblies. This is being done in places like Sulur, Kannampalayam.

Hairy sheep: Mylambadi or Mocheri sheep: These are Hairy type of sheep found in large numbers in certain portions of the districts of Ramnad, Salem and Coimbatore, especially in and around Mylambadi and Mocheri. This tract extends from Mettur to Namakkal. These sheep are not only owned by shepherds but also by some ryots. Each ryot possesses about 50 to 100 sheep. These are generally kept for manurial purposes and also for mutton. These are very similar to Nellore breed. They graze in the jungle areas, hill slopes and cultivated fields, after harvesting crops. They are generally penned at night on arable land for manurial purposes. They put on fat with good feeding and the mutton is very palatable, tasty and good.

Description:- Large, well built and hairy in type. The colour is white with a brown shade on the back, head and legs. They bear long bushy growth of hairs below the neck and on the sides, of the thighs and a short hairy growth all over, Males are ~~xxx~~ horned and the ewes are hornless. The face and ears are long and of them have two tassels or fleshy appendages of skin found hanging below the neck.

3. Madras sheep:- This type is now found in almost all the Southern districts except in Madura, Ramnad, and Coimbatore. These sheep are found in and around about Madras in large numbers. These are also owned by shepherds and private individuals for mutton and manurial purposes. Each owner will have 100 sheep. The mutton is good. The graze in vacant lands, hill slopes, tank bunds, goad sides etc. These animals also are kept in the open fields at night for manuring.

Description:- These are small sized red hairy sheep. Both horned and polled one are met with in this type. There are no tassels ~~or~~ or fleshy appendages hanging below the neck in this type. If tassels are present, they are considered impure. These sheep possess a uniform growth of red hairy fibres all over the body. These animals are short with well sprung ribs, having small head, long ears, short and thin tail with short legs. Their body is compact with a well set skin.

Goats in the Madras Presidency.

Goats. Habits and distribution:- The goats are generally found in large numbers in almost all the districts of this Presidency. People in the towns and cities also rear them, each having about 5 to 10 per house. They are kept in the ~~back~~ backyard or in front of the house during nights and allowed to roam about during the day time. These animals bite or eat every kind of vegetation found nearby. The shepherds in some of the districts rear them in herds. These are mostly maintained for meat and manure. Goats in North, where plenty of browsing facilities are available, are in good condition and weigh up to 130 pounds, especially in Krishna and Nellore district. Penning of these in the ~~xxx~~ fields at night is also practised in some localities, where they are reared up in herd system.

General description:- There is no definite type or breed of goats in any of the districts in this Province. All look alike and are called local goats or country goats. This is a scrub variety. These are big in places, where there is plenty of browsing facilities and short and thin in places where browsing facilities are found lacking. The colour is mostly black, ears long, both males and females are horned, roman nosed with two tassels hanging just below the throat. They have short tail with a long trunk and thin legs. Their coat is of small shiny hairs and a few of them possess long coarse hairs hanging below the tail and on sides of the thighs. They give birth to twins often and are more prolific than sheep. ~~Milking~~ Milking of these goats is not at all practised in general.

Milch Goats:- The only milk goat worth the name in this Province is seen in Malabar and South Kanara. Some of these are recently imported to a few towns like Trichinopoly, Coimbatore etc. Only two or three of these types are owned by individual persons. These are mostly owned by Muslims of the locality mentioned above. They are kept and maintained in the front or backyards of their houses during nights and sent out for growing in the day time. In Malabar, persons, who possess more than a dozen of these goats keep them in hutment with bamboo or wooden perforated flooring for housing them during inclement weathers and also to keep them safe from wild animals.

General description:- These goats short, small and white in colour, popularly know as Malabar or Tellicherry goats. These are supposed to be a mixture of Surti and Nubian or Kutch and Nubian imported by business men during the course of their regular shipments. Both the males and females are horned with a thin long head and medium ears. They have tassels and beard as well and are slightly roman nosed. The udder is long and pendulous and in some cases even reaching to two or three inches to the ground. The average milk yield is about 4 pounds per head per day. These goats also are very prolific and yield on an average two crops of kids in 12 to 15 months. They always give birth to twins, but triplets and quadruplets are not in common. Their manure is not of much value but is generally mixed with other manures and rubbish. Even the mutton does not fetch good amount when sold as mutton, like that of sheep. The mutton is lean and more fibrous and tough to eat. In Malabar these goats are generally fed on leaves of Jack fruit trees.

/True copy/

SD/1-8-1953

A. Theagarajan
Office Assistant
Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

File
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B. S. S. S.
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